

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

## STAFF AND OFFENDER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014

**THE TOOL BOX**

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 9

### INDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

#### GRANDPARENT GREETINGS

Haul out the craft supplies and set up a home Hallmark business. First your toddler creates the card with stickers, glitter, cut-out magazine photos, or whatever else he likes. Then you ask him what he wants to say to the recipient, and you write it inside. (I once received one of these from my then 2-year-old nephew that said, "Dear Aunt Isadora, I like to bite my piggy toy. Love, Jared." That was one card I never tossed.) The icing on the cake? When the weather clears up, let your child stamp the envelope and slide it into a nearby mailbox.

#### SIGNATURE STORYTELLING

This is a trick I use at bedtime to give new life to old stories. Start reading one of your child's favorite books. When you get to a critical point in the action, challenge him to take charge of the tale and add his own twist. For example, if you're reading *Cinderella* and the mean stepsisters have torn up her dress, ask your child, "What would you do if someone did that to you? Should Cinderella just run away and cry, or should she do something else?" It teaches kids to think on their toes.

#### BOWL-A-RAMA

Small, empty water bottles and a rubber ball are all you need to transform the family room into a bowling alley -- sans silly shoes, of course. Six bottles should suffice for bowling pins; if the bottles fall over too easily, fill them up with a little water or dry pasta for some extra weight.

#### FAMILY-ROOM PICNIC

Change things up by serving lunch outside of the kitchen. First, grab your basket (you don't need a real picnic basket -- a laundry basket will do) and assemble some picnic foods that the kids can "pack" themselves -- juice boxes, water bottles, packets of raisins, string cheese, paper plates, napkins. While the kids are busy filling the basket, spread a blanket in the family room and put together some sandwiches. Then unpack your picnic and watch the lunch disappear.

#### MOVIE TIME!

At some point even the most creative parent is going to have to resort to some good old TV time. Keep a hidden stash of DVDs that you only pull out during cruddy weather so rainy-day television is truly a treat. The same old *Wiggles* story is doubly boring for a child whose play options are limited.

Full listing can be found at: <http://www.parents.com/fun/activities/indoor/kids-indoor-games-activities/>



**Need Information about the Affordable Care Act? Contact:**

**[KYNECT.KY.GOV](http://KYNECT.KY.GOV)**

**Call Center:**

**1-855-4kynect**

**(855-459-6328)**

**Insurance Agents and Kynectors:**

**1-855-326-4650**



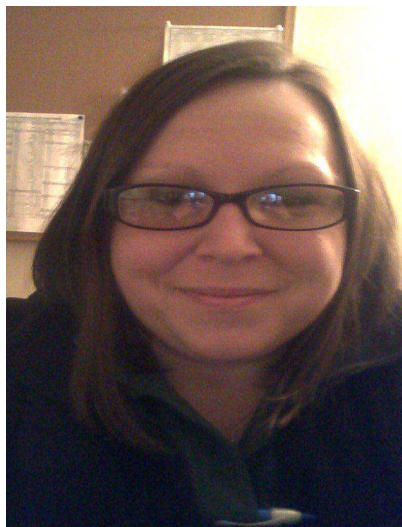
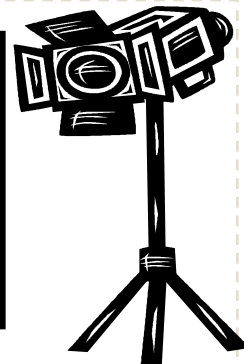
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## Spotlight on Reentry Staff

Going Above and Beyond

December 2014: Christi Sorrell, District 8— Mt. Sterling Probation and Parole

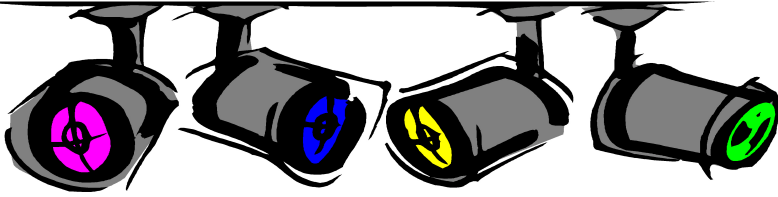


Officer Christi Sorrell began her career with Probation & Parole on September 16, 2008 in the Fayette County office. In July 2011 she transferred to District 8, at which time she became involved in the Re-Entry process. Shortly thereafter Officer Sorrell became the Re-Entry Liaison for the district at the onset of that designation. Officer Sorrell attended quarterly Re-Entry meetings and trainings at every available opportunity. She has been trained in 24/7 Dads, Moral Reconation Therapy, Relapse Prevention Therapy, and PORTAL New Direction. In May 2012 she was selected to attend the ICCA Re-Entry Conference in Reno, Nevada. In November 2012, Officer Sorrell was selected to be a part of the PORTAL Re-Alignment Committee. She has met and continues working with Gateway and Foothills Community Action Councils to develop a plan of action for partnering with programming. Officer Sorrell has partnered with Foothills Community Action in facilitation of original PORTAL. In October 2014, she secured space for facilitation of programming at Eastern Kentucky University. Along with District 8 Supervisor Tim Horn, she developed an alternate facilitation schedule of PORTAL New Direction, which is currently being offered to offenders in Madison, Clark and Estill Counties. Officer Sorrell is a valuable asset to District 8 and Reentry.

Submitted by: Tim Horn, District 8, Probation and Parole Supervisor



**Do you have a success story? Would you like to share it? If so, please contact the Offender Reentry Branch. 502-564-2220 or Email: [Kerry.Mears@ky.gov](mailto:Kerry.Mears@ky.gov) or [Melissaj.moore@ky.gov](mailto:Melissaj.moore@ky.gov)**



## Spotlight on Reentry Staff

Going Above and Beyond December 2014:

Eva Cochran— Northpoint Training Center (NTC)



Eva Cochran is a valuable asset within the Department of Corrections and Northpoint Training Center. Eva works as a liaison between the inmate and their families, often making contact with family to provide release arrangements. Eva reviews all home plans to ensure accuracy and legality. She works diligently to ensure all offenders are placed appropriately once released. As a Correctional Unit Administrator I, Eva supervises Social Services. This includes supervising inmate job placement within the institution, ensuring Orientation is being provided and assists to ensure programming is provided on a consistent basis. Eva provides the best environment and outlook for offenders to learn in New Directions class. Her class materials are provided to the inmate and explained in detail to ensure the inmate understands. She provides information and forms for offenders to obtain social security cards, birth certificates and DD214's while incarcerated. She provides information and forms for assistance to offenders upon their release that include food stamps, insurance, prescriptions and district packets for other resources. She sets up outside contacts to come in and address the offenders in the New Directions class for bank accounts and veteran health benefits. Eva also coordinates all parole board meetings held at NTC and handles all MRS and parole board paperwork for offenders being released. She teaches a pre-release class to offenders that are being released that includes state mandated Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome. She maintains a positive attitude and tries to pass that logic on to the offenders to strive to do their best.

Submitted by: Brad Adams, NTC Administrative Section Supervisor





# MISSION BEHIND BARS AND BEYOND



## WHO ARE WE?

MISSION BEHIND BARS AND BEYOND IS A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES MENTORING SERVICES AND OTHER PROGRAMS TO INCARCERATED AND FORMERLY INCARCERATED CITIZENS ACROSS KENTUCKY AND SOUTHERN INDIANA.

THE VISION IS TO SEE THAT EVERY COMMUNITY ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY IS EQUIPPED TO WELCOME, SUPPORT AND NURTURE EVERY EX-OFFENDER TO RE-ENTER SOCIETY AS HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.

## BEHIND THE BARS:

Life Skills Classes:

A program of trained and skilled volunteers conduct Life Skills classes on topics such as:

Smart Ways to Handle Money	Five Steps to a New Me	Community volunteers bring their own professional experiences into the classroom in areas such as accounting, banking, education, finance, business, education and psychology. Students receive Certifications of Completion at the end of each 6-week course which are presently offered on a
How to Set up a Business	Resilience	
Identifying, Understanding and Responding to Stress	Steps to Reconciliation	
Making Peace with Oneself and Others		

regular basis at The Diersen House, a residential facility for women convicted of felonies.

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

New Life in Christ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is the spiritual component of our ministry. This stand alone congregation has its own pastor. Worship services take place every Tuesday night. Outside churches are invited to lead worship and to worship with the women at the Diersen House. By bringing in outside visitors, a volunteer is developed and relationships begin behind the bars and that extend beyond the bars. Bible studies are offered and mission projects are begun giving the women an opportunity to begin giving back to the community. This year, 30 scarves were knitted and crocheted and donated to a local homeless shelter. In addition, the church's pastor provides counseling and offers spiritual direction. New Life in Christ Christian Church is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky and Prison Congregations of American.

## BEYOND THE BARS:

Volunteers are trained to form Nurture, Support and Accountability Groups (NSAG) comprised of 3-5 members who covenant to work with returning citizens as mentors for six months to one year. Each NSAG works with one returning citizen meeting weekly and offering daily contact via phone or in person with a member of the group. The NSAG assists the returning citizen set goals, establish priorities, find necessary resources and develop action plans particularly in areas related to housing, employment, treatment, transportation and education. The NSAG serves as a safe place for the returning citizen to share concerns, ask questions and develop needed life skills. The NSAG also serves to hold the returning citizen accountable for decisions made and compliance with conditions of release. Neither supervisory nor directive, the NSAG walks alongside the ex-offender as a faith-based support group. Similar models have demonstrated a radical reduction in recidivism for those ex-offenders who work with such NSAG for six months to a year.

Presently, there are trained Nurture, Support and Accountability Groups in Northern Kentucky, Central Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky, and the greater Louisville area. Members of Nurture, Support and Accountability are drawn from individual congregations or can consist of members from different congregations in a particular community. Training is provided for every group that is formed.

**Mission Behind Bars and Beyond**

P.O. Box 22034

Louisville, Kentucky 40252

Contact: Dean Bucalos, Project Coordinator

Phone: 502-396-3543

**[MissionBehindBarsAndBeyond@gmail.com](mailto:MissionBehindBarsAndBeyond@gmail.com)**

**Louisville Metro  
Community Action Partnership  
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)  
Subsidy Phase  
November 3, 2014 through December 11, 2014**

**Special Notice**

LIHEAP is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance to eligible households to offset heating costs. LIHEAP is made possible by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and is a pass through grant from the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, which contracts with Community Action Agencies across the state. Louisville Metro Community Action Partnership (CAP) is part of the Louisville Metro Department of Community Services.

For more information about these resources, visit our web-site at [www.louisvilleky.gov/csr/Community+Services](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/csr/Community+Services) or call CAP at 502-574-1157 (TDD available at MetroCall, 502-574- 5000); the Kentucky Association for Community Action (KACA) at 1-800-456-3452.

**LIHEAP Appointment Process**

To schedule an appointment, you need to visit one of the locations listed below and bring

- 1) your current heating bill or landlord statement if utilities are included in your rent, and
- 2) a photo ID.

Starting November 3, 2014 appointments will be scheduled at all three CAP offices from 8 am to 1 pm, based on appointment availability. (The East Office is closed for LIHEAP on Fridays).

Central Office Urban Government Center  
810 Barret Avenue, Room 127, 40204  
502-574-1157

East Office Newburg Community Center  
4810 Exeter Avenue, 40218  
502-574-1270

**THIS OFFICE IS CLOSED FOR LIHEAP ON FRIDAYS**

South Office Southwest Government Center  
7219 Dixie Highway, 40258  
502-574-1272

Individuals who are unable to apply for this program in person may send a representative on their behalf. Simply provide the representative with a hand-written note, dated and signed from the applicant, giving them permission to handle their application for services. The representative will also need to provide their photo ID matching the name specified on the applicant's note, along with the applicant's photo ID, as well as the required documentation that is required to apply for the services/programs.

**LIHEAP Application Process**

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides financial assistance to help citizens pay utility bills. The Subsidy Phase begins November 3, 2014 for Jefferson County residents who meet the established income listed below (within 130% of the federal poverty guidelines). Residents can apply for the Subsidy Phase regardless of the status of their utility bills.

**What do you need to do apply?**

- ☐ Schedule an appointment at one of the three CAP locations
- ☐ Your most recent heating bill or verification from your landlord that the heating expenses are included in your rent (i.e. lease agreement)
- ☐ Social Security Card(s) or official documentation with social security numbers or Permanent Resident Card Number(s) for *everyone* living in your household
- ☐ Proof of your household's income for the preceding month or proof of \$0 Income (Food Stamp Award letter, Zero Income form, etc.). All individuals 18 or over in the household with no income must have a Proof of No Income form completed prior to applying for benefits. (Available at the CAP office at 810 Barret or at [www.louisvilleky.gov/cap](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/cap).)
- ☐ Picture ID for head of household. (If available)

## **Treehouse and KentuckianaWorks Expand Code Louisville**

### **Job-Creation Prototype Produces Innovative Workforce Developmental Program to Raise Tech Skills in the Greater Louisville Region.**

Free training to prepare people for a rising number of computer software coding jobs will be expanded by a new \$2.9 million federal grant, Mayor Greg Fischer and Congressman John Yarmuth announced today.

The federal Workforce Innovation Fund Grant was awarded by the Department of Labor to KentuckianaWorks to expand the reach of its free software coding training program, Code Louisville, into an additional 12 counties in Kentucky and Southern Indiana using the Treehouse online learning platform. Ryan Carson, founder and CEO of Treehouse, joined Fischer and Yarmuth for the announcement.

For the past year, Code Louisville has been partnering with the Louisville Free Public Library to use Treehouse, an online video and interactive learning platform, for its training. The Workforce Innovation Grant will allow KentuckianaWorks to expand Code Louisville to people outside of Louisville and offer the free coding education to hundreds of residents in Bullitt, Henry, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties in Kentucky and Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Washington, Harrison and Scott counties in Southern Indiana. The grant also provides for helping graduates of the course find jobs with leading technology companies in the region with the help of career specialists at the Kentucky Career Centers and Work One in Southern Indiana.

Currently, the area has more than 1,700 technology job openings. Salaries start at \$45,000-\$60,000 with no degree necessary. Code Louisville was created to close the skills gap and prepare the region's residents to demonstrate those job-ready skills for these high-paying tech jobs.

The goal for Code Louisville is to get a minimum of 850 coders trained and working for local companies over the next three years, Fischer added.

Code Louisville courses last 12 weeks and cover skills such as front and back-end Web development, and development of software and applications for mobile devices. Students work independently on their own schedule and meet one day a week in the evenings for two hours to review their work, get "unstuck" and learn from experienced mentors in the tech community. At the end of each course, students have compiled a portfolio of work to show prospective employers at a job fair or interview.

"Code Louisville is part of Treehouse's national Code-to-Work movement, which will take someone with no computer programming experience, teach them how to code and help them land a job in the tech industry - all without a degree," said Treehouse's Carson. "We can help anyone become a successful computer programmer, and in doing so through Code Louisville, we're also helping to establish this 13-county region as a software talent capital and create a more vibrant and diverse technology workforce."

People interested in learning more about Code Louisville or enrolling in the next class can go to [www.codelouisville.org/candidates/](http://www.codelouisville.org/candidates/).

Local software developers who would like to mentor a Code Louisville class can sign up to help at [www.codelouisville.org/mentors/](http://www.codelouisville.org/mentors/).

KentuckianaWorks is Greater Louisville's Workforce Investment Board and an agency of Louisville Metro Government. For more information about its programs, go to [www.kentuckianaworks.org](http://www.kentuckianaworks.org).

To read full article, please go to: <http://louisvilleky.gov/news/code-louisville-expand-training-technology-jobs-29-million-federal-grant>

### Families of the Incarcerated in Kentucky:

#### **Green River Kentucky Reentry Empowering Family and Friends of the Incarcerated**

2400 Friendship Drive, Suite B  
Owensboro, KY 42303

**Meets the second Friday of each month from  
6:00 pm—8:00 pm.**

Contact: 270-852-6516

Covers Hancock, Webster, Daviess,  
McLean, Henderson, Ohio, and Union  
Counties

#### **Northern Kentucky Family & Friends of the Incarcerated**

Catholic Charities  
3629 Church Street  
Covington, KY 41015

**Meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm**

Contact: David R. Phillips 859-581-8974 ext. 117

Covers Boone, Kenton, Campbell,  
Gallatin, Carroll, Owen, Grant, and  
Pendleton Counties

#### **Bluegrass Families of the Incarcerated**

National College  
2376 Sir Barton Way  
Lexington, KY

**Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm**

Contact: jamnorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9821 (Jim), or sheknorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9820 (Sheryl)

Covers Fayette, Harrison, Scott, Franklin,  
Nicholas, Bourbon, Woodford, Anderson,  
Mercer, Boyle, Lincoln, Garrard, Jessamine,  
Clark, Powell, Madison, and Estill Counties

#### **Central Kentucky's Family & Friends of the Incarcerated & Convicted**

Cornerstone Church Of God  
1200 Ruth Lane  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

**Meets third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

Contact: Eva , Email: freedomministriesky@gmail.com; or Frank frank\_anglin@yahoo.com

Covers Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin,  
Larue, Marion, Meade, Nelson and  
Washington Counties

#### **Five County Family & Friends of the Incarcerated & Convicted**

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
1930 Winchester Avenue  
Ashland, KY 41101

**Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 pm—8:00 pm**

Contact: Lynette, Email: lsmiller0819@yahoo.com

Covers Greenup, Carter, Elliott, Boyd, and  
Lawrence Counties

#### **Family Resources Engaging Ex-Offenders**

Living Hope Baptist Church  
1805 Western Avenue, Door M  
Bowling Green, KY 42104 (Go to the right, down the  
steps)

**Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm**

Contact: 270-991-4556, George Hampton or Email: carol.hampton87@yahoo.com

Covers Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Barren,  
Metcalf, Warren, Logan, Simpson, Allen  
and Monroe Counties

**Families of the Incarcerated in Kentucky:**

Proclamation of the Word Ministry's

Southeast Christian Church: Blankenbaker Campus in AT-109

Louisville, KY

**Meets every Thursday at 7:15 pm**

**Facilitators: Darryl and Tiffany Davis**

**Contact: proclamationoftheword@yahoo.com**

(Covers Jefferson County)

Greater Louisville Reentry Coalition of Family & Friends of the Incarcerated

Louisville Main Library

Louisville, KY

**Meeting Tuesday, December 2, 2014 @ 6:30 pm**

**Contact: Melissa—melissaamosjones@gmail.com**

(Covers Jefferson, Bullitt, Spencer,  
Shelby, Oldham, Henry, Trimble  
Counties)

ANY UPDATES, CORRECTIONS, QUESTIONS, ETC, PLEASE CONTACT THE REENTRY OFFICE  
AT 502-564-2220 OR EMAIL:

KERRY MEARS—Kerry.mears@ky.gov

STARLENE SMITH-WRIGHT—starlene.smith-wright@ky.gov OR

MELISSA MOORE—melissaj.moore@ky.gov



## United States Department of Veteran's Affairs

## SUMMARY OF VA BENEFITS

You have sacrificed to keep our country—and everything it represents—safe. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs honors and serves you by fulfilling President Lincoln's promise **"to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan."**

You may be eligible for VA benefits if you are a uniformed Servicemember; Veteran; or spouse, child, or parent of a deceased or disabled Servicemember or Veteran.

VA strives to understand the unique issues you face. We are here to help you and your eligible dependents obtain compensation, education, health care, home loan, insurance, pension, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial and memorial benefits for which you are

eligible. As you make important choices about your family, finances, and career, we encourage you to use the information found here and the VA resources available to you.

Go to eBenefits at [www.ebenefits.va.gov](http://www.ebenefits.va.gov), your one-stop shop to apply for and learn about your benefits. Or visit the nearest VA regional office, call 1-800-827-1000, or go to our Web site at [www.va.gov/benefits](http://www.va.gov/benefits) for more information.

Thank you for your service. **Now let us serve you.**



#### DISABILITY COMPENSATION

Service-connected disability compensation is a tax-free benefit paid to Veterans for a disability (or disabilities) that either:

- » Arose during service
- » Was worsened or aggravated by service
- » Is presumed by VA to be related to military service

To receive disability compensation, you must have been discharged under other than dishonorable conditions.



#### PENSION

Pension is a tax-free benefit paid to wartime Veterans with limited or no income who are either aged 65 or older or who are permanently and totally disabled due to a non-service-connected cause. Seriously disabled or housebound Veterans receiving Pension may also qualify for an additional Aid and Attendance or Housebound benefit.



## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

VA pays benefits to eligible Servicemembers and Veterans pursuing an approved education or training program. There are four primary VA education benefit programs that cover Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Servicemembers and Veterans:

- » Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33)
- » Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty (Chapter 30)
- » Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve (Chapter 1606)
- » Reserve Educational Assistance Program (REAP)

The Post-9/11 GI Bill program provides financial assistance towards tuition and fees, books, and supplies, and it provides a monthly housing allowance. Eligible Servicemembers may transfer unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to an eligible spouse or child. VA pays a monthly allowance under the other benefit programs to help offset educational costs. Information about VA education programs can be found at [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov).



## VETSUCCESS

VA assists Veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, obtain, and maintain suitable employment through the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment VetSuccess program. First, VA conducts a comprehensive evaluation to help you determine your future career path. Based on your evaluation, VetSuccess provides you with vocational counseling, job-search assistance, and other education and training services.

VetSuccess career counseling benefits are also available to you if you recently separated from the military or are using VA education benefits, even if you do not have a service-connected disability.



## LIFE INSURANCE

VA provides valuable insurance benefits to Servicemembers and Veterans to give you peace of mind knowing that your family is protected. VA insurance benefits were developed in consideration of the extra risks involved in military service.

- » Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is a low-cost group life insurance program for Servicemembers. Coverage can be extended if the Servicemember is totally disabled.
- » Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection (TSGLI) is an automatic feature of SGLI that provides payments to Servicemembers who suffer losses, such as amputations, blindness, and paraplegia, due to traumatic injuries.
- » Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) allows Servicemembers to convert their SGLI to lifetime renewable term coverage after separation from service.
- » Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance (S-DVI) provides life insurance coverage for Veterans with a service-connected disability. If totally disabled, Veterans are eligible for additional coverage.
- » Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance (VMLI) provides mortgage protection insurance to disabled Veterans who have been approved for a VA Specially Adapted Housing Grant.

### ! TIME SENSITIVE—CONVERTING SGLI TO VGLI

Veterans who were separated from military service on or after November 1, 2012, may now apply to convert SGLI to VGLI within one year and 240 days from separation. Evidence of good health is not required for those who apply within 240 days of separation.



## HOME LOANS

Veterans and Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve Servicemembers may be eligible for VA's home loan program. VA loans have favorable terms, including no down payment or mortgage insurance premiums.

VA offers a number of housing benefits and grants:

- » **Guaranteed Loans:** VA can guarantee a portion of a loan made by a private lender to help you buy a home, a manufactured home, a lot for a manufactured home, or a condominium unit for your own personal occupancy. VA also guarantees loans for building, repairing, and improving homes.
- » **Refinancing Loans:** Whether you have a VA or non-VA mortgage, VA can help you refinance your loan.
- » **Specially Adapted Housing Grants:** Certain severely disabled Veterans and military personnel can receive grants to adapt or acquire suitable housing.



## HEALTH CARE

VA provides a number of health care services, including:

- » Hospital, outpatient medical, dental, pharmacy, and prosthetic services
- » Domiciliary, nursing home, and community-based residential care
- » Treatment related to Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
- » Readjustment counseling
- » Homeless Veteran programs
- » Alcohol and drug dependency treatment
- » Medical evaluation for disorders related to Gulf War service or environmental hazards
- » Specialized health care for women Veterans

**Caregivers:** VA supports caregivers who provide personal care services to Veterans who are seriously injured, chronically ill, disabled, or are getting older and are no longer able to adequately care for themselves.

**Vet Centers:** VA assists combat Veterans through a nationwide network of community-based Vet Centers. Counselors provide individual, group, and family readjustment counseling to help you with the transition to civilian life, treat post-traumatic stress disorder, and help you with any other military-related problems. Other services include: outreach, education, medical referral, homeless Veteran services, employment, and VA benefit referral.

**Veterans Crisis Line:** If you or a Veteran you know is experiencing an emotional crisis, please call 1-800-273-8255 and push 1 for immediate assistance.



## BURIAL

VA offers burial and memorial services to honor certain deceased Veterans:

- » VA can honor a Veteran by furnishing an inscribed headstone or marker at any cemetery, or a medallion in lieu of a headstone or marker to affix to one that is privately purchased.
- » VA can provide a burial allowance to partially reimburse the burial and funeral costs to certain Veterans.
- » VA can provide a Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) for the next of kin and loved ones of a deceased Veteran.
- » VA can provide an American flag to drape the casket of a Veteran.
- » A Veteran and his or her dependents can be buried in a VA national cemetery.



## DEPENDENTS AND SURVIVORS

VA honors the sacrifices of Servicemembers' and Veterans' dependents and survivors through many benefit programs:

- **Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)** is a monthly benefit paid to a surviving spouse, including additional payments for dependent children. It is available to an eligible spouse of a Servicemember who died during active military service or from a service-connected disability, or of a Veteran who was rated totally disabled at the time of death. Parents' DIC is paid to surviving parents based on financial need.

The surviving spouse and child(ren) who are eligible for DIC are also eligible for the following:

- **The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)** provides reimbursement for most medical expenses.
- **The Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (Chapter 35)** provides assistance to obtain a degree and pursue other eligible education and training.
- **A Survivors' Pension** is a monthly benefit payable to a low-income surviving spouse and child(ren) of a deceased Veteran with wartime service.

# Our Mission



You have sacrificed to keep our country—and everything it represents—safe. We honor and serve you by fulfilling President Lincoln's promise "to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan."

We strive to provide you with the world-class benefits and services you have earned, and will adhere to the highest standards of compassion, commitment, excellence, professionalism, integrity, accountability, and stewardship.

**Thank you for your service. Now let us serve you.**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA RAM 27-12-2  
SEPTEMBER 2012  
PD0010

Veterans Benefits Administration  
Washington, DC 20420

T 800-827-1000  
[www.va.gov/benefits](http://www.va.gov/benefits)



# You're Invited

## Green River Kentucky Re-Entry Empowering Family and Friends of the Incarcerated

The goal of this group is to empower and support the family and friends of the incarcerated.

### Upcoming Dates:

September 12, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

October 10, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

November 14, 2014 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. - Guest Speaker from the KY Department of Corrections to answer questions.

December 12, 2014 - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** 2400 Friendship Drive, Suite B  
Owensboro, KY 42303

**Contact:** 270-852-6516

The Green River area covers the following counties:

HANCOCK	WEBSTER
DAVISS	MCLEAN
HENDERSON	OHIO
UNION	



**Group Facilitator:**

Gregory L. Baize, Sr. M.Psych., PMHCNS-BC  
Mediation and Counseling Center of Western KY, Inc.

# You're Invited

## **BLUEGRASS FAMILIES** **OF THE INCARCERATED**



Families of the Incarcerated is a group of family members in the Lexington, Kentucky area with loved ones incarcerated, committed to providing support to one another and provide for a smoother transition for the families once their loved ones return home. They meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at National College and welcome all families who are seeking a place of love, support, and encouragement as they deal with having a member of their family in prison.

*On November 19, 2014, the KY DOC/Re-Entry Branch will be present for a Family Engagement Q & A.*

**PLEASE RSVP TO:** jamrnorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9821 (Jim) or sheknorton@gmail.com, 859-338-9820 (Sheryl) or kerry.mears@ky.gov, 502-564-2220



Bluegrass Families of the Incarcerated  
National College  
2376 Sir Barton Way  
Lexington, KY

### **Upcoming Monthly Meetings:**

September 17th  
October 15th  
November 19th  
December 17th

YOU HAVE A VOICE!! Want to use it?

Interested in joining a Reentry Council in your area?

Below you will find the Reentry Councils of Kentucky and their contact information.

## KENTUCKY RE-ENTRY COUNCILS

Kentucky Reentry is made up of reentry task forces or councils throughout the state of Kentucky. The reentry groups do not provide services for ex-offenders, nor do they have reentry programs. They are made up of individuals and organizations networking together to share information and improve the reentry process. The members may be organizations and/or individuals that provide services and/or have interests in helping. Each group is focused toward ex-offenders coming back to their areas, the issues involved, and making their community safer.

The basic purposes of each group are:

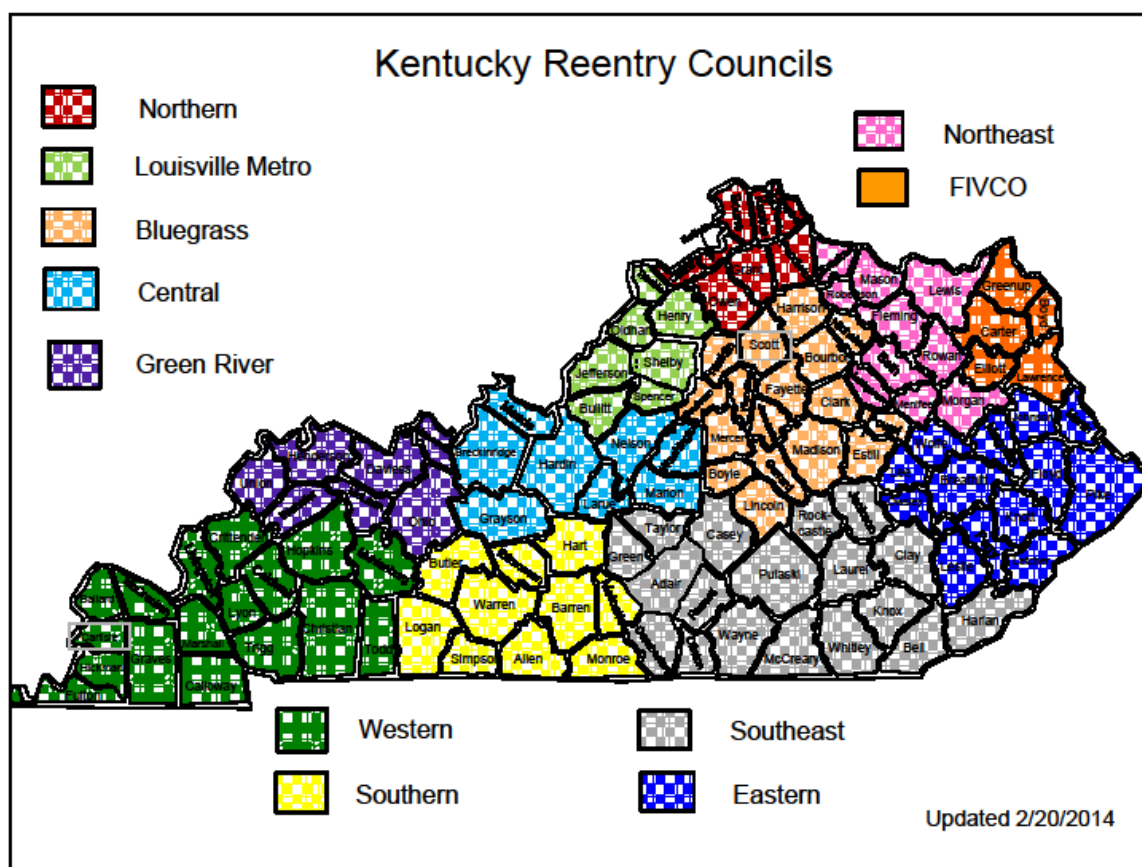
- To address the current issues ex-offenders face
- To develop a network of resources and service providers within their area
- To communicate and advocate ex-offender issues to the community and their leaders

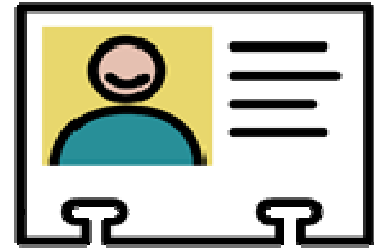
Please visit the website: [www.kentuckyreentry.org](http://www.kentuckyreentry.org)

Also, visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/KentuckyReentry>

<https://www.facebook.com/louisvillereentry>





CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Need Resources or Information?**

**Check out our website: <http://corrections.ky.gov/reentry>**

Click on “Pre-Release Community Resources”

**[www.secondchanceky.org](http://www.secondchanceky.org)**

Do you have a felony?

Do you know someone with a felony?

Do you or someone you know need assistance with employment, housing, education, meals, and other sources to be successful?

Do you need a second chance?

**[www.secondchanceky.org](http://www.secondchanceky.org)** is a website dedicated to helping people overcome obstacles in the pathway to success.

**If you have any comments, questions, suggestions, articles, etc. for the TOOLBOX, please email to:  
[kerry.mears@ky.gov](mailto:kerry.mears@ky.gov) or [melissaj.moore@ky.gov](mailto:melissaj.moore@ky.gov)**